

PRESS OF COUNTRY HAILED BY HARDING

President Praises War Service
of Papers and Urges Pa-
tient Attitude.

NOYES PLEDGES SUPPORT

John W. Davis, Former Am-
bassador, Laments Divided
Counsels in Crisis.

The annual luncheon of the Asso-
ciated Press in the Waldorf-Astoria was
made notable yesterday by a greeting
from President Harding to his fellow
newspaper men and an address by John
W. Davis, the recently retired Amba-
sador to Great Britain and incoming
general counsel for the Associated
Press.

In offering the only toast of the oc-
casion—one to the President of the United
States—Frank B. Noyes, president of
the organization, pledged support and
sympathy to President Harding in the
great tasks he is confronting. This let-
ter from President Harding then was
read and applauded:

"DEAR MR. NOYES: I would be very
grateful if on the occasion of the annual
luncheon of the Associated Press you
would express to the gathering my great
regret that public engagements make it
impossible for me to accept the invita-
tion to be present. The opportunity to
meet so pleasantly a company of fellow
newspaper men such as will be there
gathered presents a real temptation to
play truant and join you, but it seems
quite impossible.

"As a newspaper publisher I am dis-
posed to arrogate to myself a bit of
special qualification to judge the ser-
vice that the journalistic press has ren-
dered to our country in the difficult
period through which we have passed
and which is not yet ended. I know
how earnestly and effectively the press
tried to hold up the hands of all who

were carrying forward our nation's ac-
tivities during the war.

"On the other hand, my service in
public life gave me some special in-
sight into the relations between the
Government and the instrumentalities
of publicity. No more unqualified, in-
telligent and patriotic service was ren-
dered to the nation and the great cause
than that so freely given by the news-
papers. Looking back upon it as one
of the chief assets on the side of na-
tional morals, I cannot but bespeak a
continuance of the lofty motives that
inspired it, and of the generous, con-
siderate, helpful attitude.

"The world and our own nation have
yet manifold onerous problems to solve
and burdens to bear. I know that among
those entrusted with national adminis-
tration there is the ardent wish to
serve with whatever of ability we may
possess, and without any reservations
in behalf of partisanship or personal
interest. Nothing would give me more
assurance at this time than to know that
the new administration would be able
to deserve and retain the lavish measure
of good will and confidence that has
been accorded to it thus far. Mutual
tolerance and moderation will, I am
sure, be amply repaid in accomplish-
ment for the good of the country we all
love and wish to prosper. Most sincere-
ly yours,

"WARREN G. HARDING."

Mr. Davis's Address.

Mr. Davis spoke of the newspaper as
"the great educative institution before
which even colleges and universities
must bow. Upon the information you
give us," said he, "we must order our
lives." He praised the Associated Press
for discharging its high duty without
bias, prejudice or partisanship. Fore-
seeing that foreign policy must become
the most important factor in our na-
tional life, he declared it could be based
only upon information transmitted with
exactness. To that end the speaker
urged a better trained and better paid
diplomatic and consular service.

The former Ambassador said in part:
"This is neither the time nor the place
for any discourse on American foreign
policy. Certainly those on whose should-
ers the burden rests are entitled to
every opportunity to formulate their
policy without premature criticism or
unsolicited advice. It is clear, how-
ever, that among the problems which
beset at the moment this anxious planet,
there stands easily in the front rank.
The first of these is the German in-
demnities. Until this subject is removed
by rational agreement from the field of

controversy, there neither can be nor
will be any return to normal conditions
of trade and commerce, and no perma-
nent return to international peace.

"The second is Russia, where 170,000,-
000 people, occupying some of the most
fertile areas of the globe, are slowly
sinking under the weight of an intol-
erable despotism into political and social
anarchy. It is a catastrophic process
which outside interference is powerless
to affect, but whose worldwide results
cannot be computed.

"The third undoubtedly is America,
whose attitude toward the problems that
have followed the ending of the great
world war still awaits definition, al-
though two years and a half have
passed since the guns were stilled. What
that attitude is to be America alone has
the right to decide, but the rest of man-
kind is well within its rights in calling
upon us for decision.

"Please understand that I have no
desire either to suggest or introduce any
controversial question which might dis-
turb the prevailing harmony of this
harmonious gathering. Least of all do
I desire to rake over the embers of past
contention. I am thinking entirely in
terms of the future. But the spectacle of
a great nation unable in a time of real
crisis to take decisive action and power-
less because of divided councils to move
either forward or back, in one which
should give us food for serious thought.

A tiny sailing craft whose steering gear
is out of order is of little consequence
in its trouble to any one but itself, but
when a great liner lies wallowing in
the waves along frequent lanes, with
its fires banked and engines stopped,
while captains and crew debate, it is not
only in peril itself but a menace to all
who travel on the sea."

Mr. Davis suggested that the con-
stitutional requirement of a two-thirds
vote in the Senate to ratify a treaty be
abrogated in favor of a majority vote.

Results of Business Meeting.

In the business meeting of the Asso-
ciated Press United States Senator
Arthur Capper, who has conducted a
campaign for membership for the Kan-
sas City Kansans, withdrew his applica-
tion in the face of opposition which he
recognized as too strong for him. An
application of the St. Louis Westliche
Post, a German language newspaper, for
an English language membership and
service was denied by a viva voce vote.

The following directors were elected
for a term of three years: W. H. Cowles,
Salem, Ore.; Wash. Spokesman-Review;
Victor F. Lawson, Chicago, Daily News;
Frank P. MacLennan, Topeka, Kan.,
State Journal; D. D. Moore, New

Orleans, La., Times-Picayune; D. E.
Town, Louisville, Ky., Herald. To fill
the unexpired term of A. C. Wells of
the Duluth (Minn.) Herald, resigned,
H. V. Jones of the Minneapolis (Minn.)
Journal was elected.

The board will meet to-day to elect
officers for the year. The present con-
vention is the most largely attended the
Associated Press has held. The conven-
tion of the American Newspaper Pub-
lishers Association begins in the Wal-
dorf-Astoria this morning.

CABINET CONSIDERS PULP.

Harding Seeks Solution of Print
Paper Problem.

WASHINGTON, April 26.—The problem
of developing Alaska's wood pulp re-
sources for relief of the print paper situ-
ation was discussed by President Har-
ding to-day with his Cabinet. The Ad-
ministration was said to be very hope-
ful that a way would be found to make
the Alaskan wood pulp readily available
to American publishers.

One suggestion advanced has been for
the establishment of a ship line between
Seattle and Seward, a proposal which is
expected to receive the consideration of
the new Shipping Board.

WARDER WILL APPEAR AGAINST MRS. WERNER

Murder Confession to Be
Used by the Prosecution.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
UTICA, April 26.—Taking of testimony
in the trial of Mrs. Jennie Werner, ac-
cused of inciting Rutgers B. Warder to
murder her husband, Henry Werner, be-
gan this morning in the Supreme Court
here, after District Attorney James P.
Greene had outlined the State's case.

Mr. Greene in his opening statement
declared Mrs. Werner was equally
guilty with Warder, and said that when
Warder returned at midnight after dis-
posing of her husband's body she
asked:

"Are you sure Henry won't crawl
back?"

"No," the District Attorney said
Warder replied, "Henry won't crawl
back. He is shot."

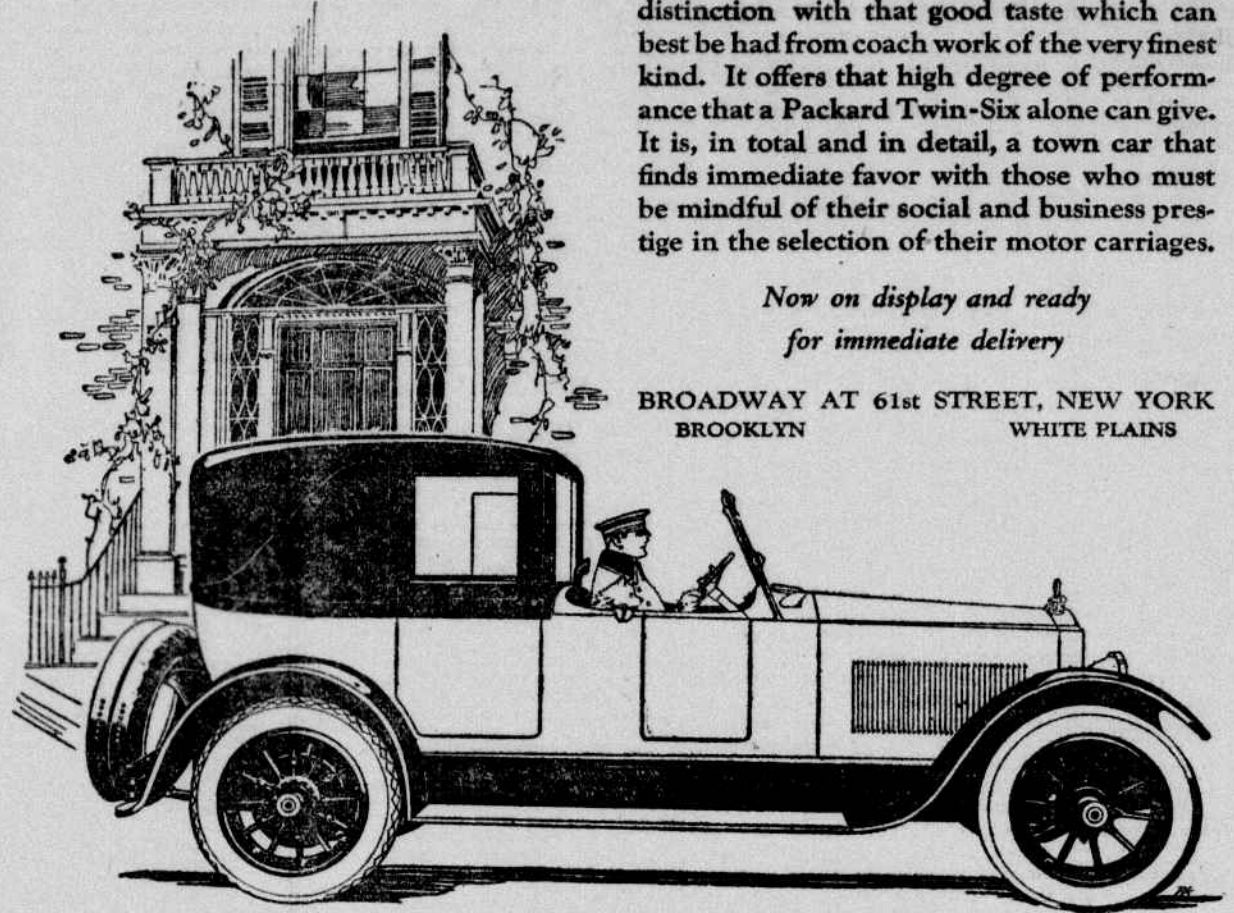
Mr. Greene also told the jury he
would put Warder on the witness stand,
where it is expected he will repeat the
confession made in Sing Sing.

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